

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-2, 4-5, 9, 12-16, and 20 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A lane maker, comprising:

a plurality of interconnected traffic control cones, each of said traffic control cones comprising:

a base, said base including a lane marker rotatably attached thereto and said base including at least one anchor integral therewith ~~fixedly attached thereto~~;

said lane marker comprising a housing, a planar tape, said planar tape being retractable within said housing, and a hitch at the free end of said tape, said hitch being configured to be releasably connected to an anchor on an adjacent cone, said base, housing, planar tape, and hitch being oriented such that when connecting two adjacent cones, said planar tape lies substantially flat on the ground between said two adjacent cones; and

a conical cap extending upwardly from said base.

2. (currently amended) A lane maker as in claim 1 further comprising a light module mounted on said base ~~behind adjacent~~ said lane marker.

3. (original) A lane maker as in claim 2 wherein said light module comprises a sensor, an electronic circuit, and a light, said sensor being responsive to external conditions to control the status of said light.

4. (currently amended) A lane maker as in claim 3 wherein said sensor is responsive to one of the following external conditions: ~~-to turn on the light:~~ motion, ~~-particular~~ audible sounds, incident light, and the level of ambient light.

5. (currently amended) A lane maker as in ~~claim 1 wherein claim 3~~ wherein said tape comprises a highly visible, web-like material, said material being flexible enough to coil within said housing, and, when said light is turned on, said light is located to shine on said tape to illuminate it.

6. (original) A lane maker as in claim 1 wherein said hitch is designed either to become unattached to the anchor to which it is attached, due to the rotational torques imposed on said tape by said cone tipping over, or to break away from said tape, when subjected to a force beyond a preselected threshold.

7. (original) A lane maker as in claim 1 wherein said tape comprise a material from one of the following: electro-fibers, solar fibers, glass-beaded webs, and an ultra-bright reflective material.

8. (original) A lane maker as in claim 1 wherein said cones are color-coded to indicate the type of activity from which the traffic is being separated.

9. (currently amended) A traffic control cone, comprising:

a base, said base including a lane marker rotatably attached thereto and said base including at least one anchor integral therewith ~~fixedly attached thereto~~;

said lane marker comprising a housing, a planar tape, said planar tape being retractable within said housing, and a hitch at the free end of said tape, said hitch being configured to be releaseably latched to said anchor, and said base further including a planar bottom surface and said planar tape extending from said housing substantially parallel to said planar bottom surface; and

a conical cap extending upwardly from said base.

10. (original) A traffic control cone as in claim 9 further comprising a light module mounted on said base.

11. (original) A traffic control cone as in claim 10 wherein said light module comprises a sensor, an electronic circuit, and a light, said sensor being responsive to external conditions to control the status of said light.

12. (currently amended) A traffic control cone as in claim 11 wherein said sensor is responsive to one of the following ~~to turn on the light~~ external conditions: motion, ~~particular~~ audible sounds, incident light, and the level of ambient light.

13. (currently amended) A traffic control cone as in claim 10 wherein said light module is mounted on said base behind said lane marker, and, when said light is turned on, said light shines on said tape to illuminate it.

14. (currently amended) A traffic control cone as in ~~claim 9 wherein claim 1 wherein~~ said conical cap comprises a plurality of conical segments including a bottom segment integral with said base, said plurality of conical segments being which are capable of being collapsed to nest within ~~the said~~ bottom segment and capable of extending into a full-sized cone.

15. (currently amended) A traffic control cone as in claim 14 further comprising manually operable constraining means for maintaining said plurality of conical segments in said extended, full-sized cone status.

16. (currently amended) A traffic control cone as in ~~claim 9 wherein~~
claim 14 wherein the horizontal cross-section of said plurality of conical
segments are one of the following: circular, rectangular, and square.

17. (original) A traffic control cone as in claim 9 wherein said tape
comprises a highly visible, web-like material, said material being flexible
enough to coil within said housing.

18. (original) A traffic control cone as in claim 17 wherein said hitch is
designed either to become unattached to the anchor to which it is attached,
due to the rotational torques imposed on said tape by said cone tipping over,
or to break away from said tape, when subjected to a force beyond a
preselected threshold.

19. (original) A traffic control cone as in claim 17 wherein said tape
comprise a material from one of the following: electro-fibers, solar fibers,
glass-beaded webs, and an ultra-bright reflective material.

20. (currently amended) A lane ~~maker~~ marker for use with a traffic control cone or barrel, said lane ~~maker~~ marker comprising:

a housing adapted to be rotatably mounted on the base of said traffic control cone or barrel; and

a reflective tape retractably coiled within said housing, said tape including a hitch attached to its free end, and said tape being adapted to lie flat on the supporting surface of said traffic cone or barrel when said hitch is connected ~~extendable to connect~~ ~~said hitch to an adjacent traffic control cone~~ or barrel.